The A. F. of L. Weekly News Letter contains a brief summary of important matters affecting labor, occurring in the industrial, legislative, and judicial fields, and such other information that will benefit the trade union movement.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS LETTER

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AGITATE!
EDUCATE!
ORGANIZE!

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IS WAR WITH MEXICO GREED'S NEXT MOVE?

Washington, July 3. — The sinister figure of Mexican intervention looms as a result of a report by a senate committee headed by Mr. Fall of New Mexico. This report declared, in effect, that Mexico must change its constitution to suit American investors or it will be invaded.

The Montreal convention of the A. F. of L. raised a warning cry against present anti-Mexican tendencies in this country, and adopted a committee report, which said, in part:

"We call attention to the unquestionable fact that the issue of intervention in Mexico will be more acute during the immediate future than it has been for some time. There are evidences of a growing determination on the part of many of those interested in Mexican investments to force the issue to a conclusion. Intervention, in one form or another, is urged, and one of our great political parties has written into its platform a declaration which clearly means deep sympathy with this demand.

"Ordinarily we concede to Americans the right to invest in Mexico or any other country, and under ordinary circumstances Americans who do so invest are entitled to the protection of their government.

"It is an accepted principle that the people of one country who emigrate from it to another are bound by the laws of the country to which they emigrate, and this principle applies equally to those who acquire titles and grants as well as those who engage in business. When there is added to such a condition the fact that much of the land to which certain adventurers obtained possession corruptly and in collusion with the previous governments of Mexico unfaithful to their people, they are not justified in having other nations of which they are citizens protect them in those corrupt practices and holdings.

"And where American capitalists engaged in intrigue and in deliberate defiance of the law of a foreign land in which they invest, we deny that they have any just claim upon the government of the United States for its protection."

"LABORERS" ASK RELIEF.

Washington, July 2.—The National Federation of Federal Employes asks the president to remedy wage conditions of openers and packers employed in the United States customs service. In their letter to the chief executive the trade unionists show the bungling manner in which congress handles the so-called "labor question."

Ten years ago congress ordered that the pay of laborers employed in the customs' service should be $840 a year. Since then the term "laborer" has become obsolete because of its general misapplication. Employes doing skilled and semi-skilled work are now classed as "laborers," with congress oblivious to changed conditions.

The last congress voted $500,000 for increases to custom service employes, but because the openers and packers are classified as "laborers" they must stay under the 1909 limit of $840 a year, and will receive no part of this increase.

The National Federation of Federal Employes urges the president to issue an executive order transferring these customs "laborers" from the statutory class of employes to some appropriate classification on a lump sum payroll, thereby bringing them financial relief.

FORCE IS FUTILE.

San Francisco, July 3.—Injunction judges are blind to human rights, and they offer no hope for a solution of industrial disputes, says the San Francisco Call and Post.

"The courts, as a rule," says the editor, "can see a right of property through a grindstone, whereas a human right is as inconspicuous as a fly speck on a stove pipe.

"The legal approach to the labor problem yields not a ray of hope. Already invoked by the most reactionary employers, it is always bitterly resented by the working men. If the method is successful it makes radicals of those who suffer from it.

"Employers will have to learn, sooner or later, that the only way to deal with labor is to bargain with it. If power is to continue to be the final umpire in industrial disputes, capital will have to give in when labor has the most power.

"The only alternative is democracy, which few think of trying."

WOULD OUTLAW STRIKES.

New York, July 3.—The Merchants' association of this city has unanimously adopted a resolution presented by the chamber of commerce of the United States which would outlaw strikes and establish compulsory arbitration in industrial disputes between workers and "all public service corporations performing public service essential to the lives, health, security and comfort and well being of the people."

A tribunal to settle disputes would be set up, and awards made binding upon both parties.

The Merchants' association also favors the other portions of a resolution submitted by the chamber of commerce of the United States, which includes a declaration for the non-union shop.

REJECT COMPANY "UNION."

Schenectady, N. Y., July 3.—Iron molders employed by the General Electric company are on strike against a company "union." The molders insist on the right to run their own business, rather than be directed by officials of the company. The strike has spread to other cities, where General Electric company's plants are maintained.

MILK PRODUCTION RECORD.

Washington, July 3.—Milk production reached a new high mark last year when 90,000,000,000 pounds was produced, according to the federal bureau of markets. It is estimated that there are more than 22,[illegible]00 milk-producing cows on farms.

BREAK PROMISE; STRIKE.

Toronto, Ontario, July 3.—Broken promises forced machinists employed by the Bawden Machine and Tool company to strike to enforce a wage rate of 85 cents an hour.

TEAMSTERS GAINING.

Oakland, Cal., July 3.—Organized teamsters in this city are winning their demand for $1 an hour.

ONE-SIDED JUSTICE PREVAILS IN KANSAS

Topeka, Kan., July 3.—Justice is not administered impartially in this state declared delegates of the Santa Fe railroad shop federation in a protest to Governor Allen against the mobbing of the Non-Partisan league at Ellenwood.

"We deplore the fact," says these trade unionists, "that in the great state of Kansas, where democracy is supposed to prevail, and where the inalienable rights of its citizens are expected to be protected, that a mob could be formed by advance notice, with the full knowledge of the administrative and law enforcement officials of that locality and be allowed to pursue its course unhindered, with the apparent connivance of these officials.

"It is inconceivable that because one may differ in his or her opinions upon the political or economic questions, and are placing their views before the public in a perfectly legitimate and lawful manner, that they should be made the subjects for mob action, with no apparent protection from the constituted authorities, elected by the people and sworn to enforce the law.

"It is deplorable in this advanced state of civilization that one cannot differ with another politically or in the field of economics without being placed in the category of misrepresentation, have his motives misconstrued, his views denounced as alien, his integrity maligned, his patriotism questioned, his sanity doubted and finally be made a target for mob action."

The shop men remind Governor Allen that he compelled Sheriff Webb, of Crawford county to resign when that official permitted Alexander Howat, president of the Kansas miners, who was jailed for refusing to recognize the Kansas "can't-strike" law, to address a mass meeting of miners from the balcony of the jail.

The shop men now call upon the governor to demand that the sheriff of Barton county "hand in his resignation and a man be appointed capable and willing to enforce the laws of the state of Kansas."

"We would call the governor's attention," continues the statement, "to the fact that there was no hesitancy or delay in calling for the resignation of Sheriff Webb."

The delegates instructed officers of the federation "to see that the public press is given an opportunity to print this article."

"UPLIFTERS" MUST PAY.

New York, July 3.—A jury has awarded damages in the sum of $3,500 to William McCue against the Russell Sage foundation. The young man's picture was printed in a book published by the foundation with the legend, "The toughest kid in hell's kitchen." McCue proved that he was never arrested or charged with delinquency in any form, and when his picture was taken he was told it was for boys' scout purposes.

In refusing a new trial for the defendants Justice Ford paid his respects to "uplifters" and reformers in general.

"There is not a scintilla of evidence that this boy was tough; it is a wicked libel," said the court.

"That is the great trouble with these movements. They think that where there is poverty there must be criminality. As a matter of fact in those humble little homes in the very section pictured in this book will be found more Christian piety, more devotion to real duty, more of the sterling qualities of humanity than will be found in the mansions along Fifth avenue.

"These people from their great height of self-conscious righteousness and superior excellence peer down on and discuss these humble beings as though they were so many cobblestones in the street, without any regard at all for their feelings or their rights in the community."

HAVE NEW CATCH TERM.

Detroit, Mich., July 3.—Anti-trade union employers in this city are using the latest catch term to conceal their opposition to organized labor. "The American plan" is the proper thing. It has a patriotic ring and every one that doesn't kowtow is a questionable character.

Advocates of "the American plan," however, present the same old frazzled arguments of the avowed trade union opponent 20 years ago. Later this opposition was abandoned and a pretense of friendliness was affected by the use of the so-called "open" shop term. With the latter term discredited, opponents are attempting to capitalize a patriotic sentiment that was intensified during the war.

RESTS ON COMMODITY IDEA.

Atlantic City, N. J., July 3.—The Kansas "can't-strike" law is based on the theory that labor is a commodity, according to W. L. Huggins, president of the Kansas court of industrial relations, in an address to the convention of rotary clubs.

The speaker pointed out that the government regulates utilities in the interest of the general welfare, and this, he said, is the principle underlying his court.

After putting workingmen who would raise living standards in the same class as a railroad or a gas plant, Judge Huggins made a fervent plea for democracy.

WANT NON-UNION SHOP.

Galesburg, Ill., July 32.—The local telephone company has declared for the non-union shop and has notified its electrical workers and telephone operators to this effect. These unionists are asking for improved working conditions. At present the girls are working seven days a week most of the time.

The company has joined an anti-trade union movement that has been organized by business men. The arguments used is citizen's alliance stuff.

MOLDERS WIN UNION SHOP.

Denver, July 3.—Organized iron molders have defeated a strong movement to establish non-unionism in this industry. After a three-weeks' strike the molders won their point and incidentally raised wages from $6.40 a day to $8.

STREET CAR MEN OUT.

Toronto, Ontario, July 3.—Refusal to pay the same wage rate as the municipal lines caused 2,300 employes of the Toronto Railway company to suspend work.

LEGAL CEREMONIALS UNFIT FOR INDUSTRY

London, England, July 3.—Arbitration by force in Australia has destroyed the spirit of good will so necessary in industry; it has enveloped industry in a stifling legal atmosphere that makes it impossible for employer and employe to develop a friendly spirit, and it has deadened the employers' sense of responsibility because arbitration courts now "fix things up."

The above objections to compulsory arbitration in Australia are recorded in the Democrat, issued by the General Federation of Trades Unions, by a writer who has studied the Australian plan first hand.

"The atmosphere of a court of law, with its ceremonials and delays, and legal interpretations, is unsuited for the settlement of industrial disputes," says the writer.

"Where delays have occurred in hearings, owing to congestion, the men have often struck because, human nature being what it is, they refused to wait indefinitely. Even where delays are not unduly protracted the method is wrong. The parties meet under circumstances of restrained but unavoidable hostility; they directly interchange no views in a helpful way; but each endeavors, through the legal or secretarial representative, to persuade an impartial tribunal that it is wholly right and the other wholly wrong. Basically, it is an impossible method, if the aim be to create happier relations between the employer and the employe. That is the one result it can never achieve.

"What is needed is the direct contact of employer and employe; meeting together as experts; not in order to fight out a bitter contest in a court room, but rather to help one another to find a mutual basis of settlement. In that friendlier atmosphere each would, sooner or later, realize the other's point of view—mis-impression and groundless suspicion would disappear—and then there might develop not only a sympathetic understanding, but also a righteous recognition of a duty to one another, and incidentally to the community. This thing cuts deep—and unless some conception of moral duty can be evolved—I confess I regard the future with apprehension."

SCORE PALMER'S SPIES.

Boston, July 3.—Attorney General Palmer's spies were scored by Federal Judge George W. Anderson of the federal district court in releasing 17 alien radicals who were arrested in raids conducted by the department of justice. The court said:

"I cannot adopt the contention that government spies are any more trustworthy or less disposed to make trouble in order to profit therefrom than are spies in private industry, except in time of war. Spies are necessarily drawn from the unwholesome and untrustworthy classes."

Judge Anderson referred to instructions received by the Boston bureau of investigation of the federal department of justice regarding the use of "under cover instructions," and continued:

"These instructions necessarily imply that the department had in these parties pretended members of communist and communist labor party locals; having sufficient influence so they could arrange to have meetings held on the nights set for the raids. They show that the government spies were then active and influential in these prescribed parties; they were not mere onlookers."

AN IMPUDENT ANTI.

Buffalo, N. Y., July 3.—E. J. McCone, general manager of the non-union Buffalo Commercial, had his trunk full of impudence with him while addressing a meeting of business men in this city. In appealing for "the right of employers to run their own business," he said that a contract recently signed by a building company and their organized employes would be tested in the courts.

"We believe we have a right to insist that any new firm entering the field here shall at least be operated on a 100 per cent American basis," said McCone. This is the same individual who told a committee of the United States senate that there were only four newspapers in the country that were free from dictation in their news columns by the Typographical union. American newspapers let out such a unanimous hoot at this statement that since then McCone has confined his activities to his home town.

RAIL MEN START BANK.

Washington, July 3.—The treasury department has approved a charter to "The Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers' Co-operative Bank of Cleveland, Ohio," with a capital of $1,000,000. The bank will be chartered under the federal law for national banks and under the Ohio law.

The engineers have several million dollars at their disposal and are financially able to take over all the stock, but it is understood that some of the stock will be offered to the public. The rail men have discussed this question in several recent conventions, but final action was delayed because of the war.

EXPORTS MAY RAISE PRICES.

Washington, July 3. — While workers are urged to produce more that prices may be reduced, Commissioner of Labor Statistics Meeker is quoted as saying that increased exports from this country may raise prices.

Food stuffs and other commodities have been shipped from this country in record breaking quantities recently, but this situation is ignored by those who tell labor that the reason for present prices is that the workers have "quit cold on the job" and that this has produced a scarcity of everything.

PRINTERS RAISE WAGES.

Buffalo, N. Y., July 3.—Wages of newspaper printers have been raised $7.50 a week through an agreement between Typographical union No. 9 and newspaper managers.

BOILER MAKERS WIN.

St. Louis, Mo., July 3.—After a five-weeks' strike boiler makers have won their demand for improved working conditions.

ENGINEERS ADVANCE.

Tucson, Ariz., July 3.—The Steam and Operating Engineers' union has established a new wage scale which advances rates to $160 a month.

WOMEN'S WAGES LAW PROVES INEFFECTIVE

Spokane, Wash., July 3.—Trade unionists in this state who have urged working women to organize and depend upon themselves to raise wages rather than on some office holder, are pointing to the state industrial welfare commission's refusal to sustain the recommendation of an $18 minimum wage for women workers.

President Short of the state federation of labor denounces Governor Hart. The trade unionist says "there is only one way out for the women workers and that is organization in the trade union movement, where their interests can be permanently conserved without being subject to the fickleness and trickery of politics.

"The cards are at last face up on the table. The women of our state now know the political jugglery that has been practiced to pervert the state industrial welfare commission and make it subservient to the interests of the employers against the interests of the women wage workers of our state. Some time ago I issued a public statement in which I charged that the governor, at the behest of the employers, planned to change the entire personnel of the commission so that the $18 minimum that had been established for our women workers could be discarded."

President Short charged that one woman was removed from the commission "because of her human sympathy and desire for justice."

The vote of the commission was a tie. President Short says the governor is having difficulty "finding one other woman in the state who will betray the interests of the women wage workers, but he will eventually find one."

ARE UNIONS UNLAWFUL?

Granite City, Ill., July 3.—Trade unionists are asking why it takes so long for the United States supreme court to decide this issue:

Is the Tri-City central trades council of this city an unlawful combination and is there such a thing as peaceful picketing?

The case is the result of a wage cut against workers employed at the American steel foundries several years ago. The workers appointed a committee, but were refused an audience by the company. A strike resulted and at the request of the company Federal Judge Humphreys, of Springfield, issued an injunction in which the court ruled that the Tri-City central trades council is an unlawful combination; that there is no such thing as peaceful picketing and that all kinds of picketing is unlawful.

The decision was appealed to the federal court of appeals, Chicago district, and Judge Humphreys' conclusions were set aside. From this decision the company appealed to the United States supreme court, where the case was argued last January. On June 6 the court ordered that the case be set down for reargument in the October term of court.

MOUNTAIN MEN AROUSED.

Williamson, W. Va., July 3.—"The motto of West Virginia, 'Mountaineers are always free,' will be made effective," declared Mother Jones in an address to over 5,000 miners of Mingo county. A drenching rain did not deter the workers from coming out of the mountains, the tent colonies of evicted strikers and neighboring towns. Mayor Porter of this place assured the meeting that he was in perfect sympathy with their efforts to rid the state of Baldwin-Feltz detective thugs, employed by the coal owners.

Secretary Pauley of the West Virginia federation of labor told the miners that trade unionists throughout the state are behind them in this fight for law and order.

The recent murder of the mayor of Matewan and other citizens by the Baldwin-Feltz detective thugs, who were attempting to evict miners without due process of law, has aroused organized labor to greater activity against these private armies of the coal owners. The same condition prevails in Logan and McDowell counties. Governor Cornwell ignores these outlaws while delivering lectures and issuing statements on the need for "100 per cent Americanism."

ANTIS APPEAL FOR AID.

Little Rock, Ark., July 3.—The board of commerce is aiding the anti-trade union movement in this city. This appeal to boycott union establishments is being forwarded to various citizens:

"Will you help make Little Rock a 100 per cent open shop town by insisting on your family, friends and employes patronizing these who endorse the open shop?"

Wives of trade unionists in this city are not fooled by the "open" shop pretense of these employers. The women refuse to use the term "open" shop, and declare that this movement is strictly anti-union and refer to it as a union-smashing plan.

COAL PROFITS GROW.

Washington, July 3.—Coal production statistics compiled by the federal trade commission from reports submitted for the month of March by 1,081 coal owners show that profits per ton for that month averaged 42 cents against 29 cents in February.

The claims of coal miners that they are not permitted to work because of car shortage and for other reasons is supported by the commission's statement that the average number of days worked by each miner during March was 19, against 17 in the previous month.

STRIKE FOR EIGHT HOURS.

Dubuque, Iowa, July 3.—Iron molders are on strike for an eight-hour day and wage increases. In one plant they have been working 54 hours a week, and 58 hours in another plant. These unionists insist that Dubuque take its place with competitive cities and raise its 70-cent rate to 90 cents.

PATTERN MAKERS OUT.

Schenectady, N. Y., July 3.—Pattern makers employed by the American locomotive works are on strike to enforce a wage rate of $1.25 an hour. These highly skilled workers have been receiving 90 cents.

TUCSON LINEMEN OUT.

Tucson, Ariz., July 3.—Refusal of the local electric company to adjust wage rates resulted in a walk out of linemen.

MINERS WILL EXPOSE COAL OWNERS' PLAN

Scranton, Pa., July 3.—Charges of profiteering by coal owners was made by Vice President Murray of the United Mine Workers at the first session of the anthracite mine wage commission, appointed by the president. The trade unionist informed the commission that the miners would prove this charge and expose the coal owners who are attempting to shift responsibility for present prices and conditions to the miners.

"We can prove from official data," said Mr. Murray, "that there is no relation between labor costs of mining anthracite coal and the exorbitant price which is being exacted from the consumer; or, in other words, that the rates of pay of anthracite mine workers are not the determining factor in fixing the price of coal to the consumer. Our contention will be, and we shall demonstrate its correctness, that by propaganda and misrepresentation the attempt has been made to have the public believe that if the wages of anthracite mine workers or other classes of industrial workers are increased it will bring about another step in the vicious circle of the increased cost of living. Nothing could be further from the truth. This claim, we shall show, is merely the expedient which has been used by coal and other profiteers who have robbed and are robbing the public, to attempt to place the guilt of their crimes upon labor.

"We shall show that the interests of the anthracite workers and other classes of workers are identical with the interests of the public and that both the public and the workers are being exploited."

In urging the commission to declare for recognition of the United Mine Workers, Vice President Murray showed that the present agreement is between "anthracite operators" and "anthracite mine workers' organizations." No such organization as the latter exists, said the speaker, who told the commission that it was time to throw aside this subterfuge and recognize the organization that is bound to carry out the provisions of an agreement that is made with a mythical organization.

APPEAL TO NON-UNIONISTS.

Duluth, Minn., July 3.—The trade union movement has started an organizing compaign, which includes the distribution of much literature, written in the followng snappy style:

"No man or woman who works for a wage or salary can afford to go it alone these days. You can't get anywhere as an individual. You are simply lost in the great whirl of big things. We are living in an age of organization, and the worker who does not belong to a trade union is out of step with the times.

"Profiteering, abnormally high prices and other evils of which we complain, are the direct or indirect result of organization and combination among those who control the things you must buy to live and thrive.

"Without organization the wages of workers are subject to rise and fall according to the condition of the so-called labor market, and without regard to the cost of living. Organized labor gives stability to wages and working conditions.

"Think this over. Join a union. If there is no union of your trade or calling in this vicinity, why not start one?"

FARMERS OFFER PLAN.

Washington, July 3.—A reconstruction program which, it is asserted, will save American farmers $2,000,000,000 annually has been made public by the farmers' national council. The program includes:

Government ownership and democratic operation of the railroads for service and not for profit.

Government ownership and democratic operation of the people's ships for service and not for profit.

Thorough going federal control of meat packers, with the object of eliminating uncontrolled profits.

According to the statement, if this program were carried into full effect, it would save $75 annually for every man, woman and child of the 40,000,000 farmer population. The statement adds:

"This program will save the other workers fully as much as it will save the farmers, and it is to the common interest of at least 95 per cent of the American people to have the program carried into effect at once."

The council estimated that government ownership of railroads would save the farmers $1,900,000,000 annually.

SUPPORT CIGAR MAKERS.

Tampa, Fla., July 3. — The trade union movement of this country is responding to the plea of several thousand striking cigar makers for financial help. Cigar makers of Cuba are also aiding. The strike was forced on these workers by the victimizing policy of employers, who discharged nearly 200 committee men. Among the strikers are large numbers of unorganized. The Cigar Makers' International union's appeal for aid has been indorsed by the American Federation of Labor, and unionists and sympathizers are urged to assist in financing this righteous struggle of the workers.

MILLIONS IN OIL FRAUDS.

New York, July 3.—Wholesale indictments of oil stock promoters in this city proves that Barnum was right when he referred to the birth rate of a certain class of people.

A federal grand jury has rounded up four oil companies, 10 brokerage houses and about 50 individuals. It is claimed that millions of dollars have been confided to this gentry by trustful souls who had visions of being millionaires over night. The promoters would pay an occasional dividend out of the sale of stocks as a lure for more contributions from Mr. and Mrs. Easy Mark.

WILL ARBITRATE.

Burlington, Iowa, July 3.—After resisting demands of the Bakery and Confectionery Workers' union for seven months, the Iowa Biscuit company has concluded to arbitrate differences.

JEWELRY WORKERS UNITE.

Peoria, Ill., July 3. — Jewelry workers in this city have organized and affiliated with the trade union movement.

"Open" Shop Agitators Are Frankly Anti-Union

Washington, July 3.—"Open" shop agitators are at last dropping all pretense of friendliness to trade unions—even "if they are run right"—and now frankly acknowledge that their theory stands for individual bargaining.

The chamber of commerce of the United States has taken the lead in the new movement. The chamber is submitting to a referendum of its affiliates a series of so-called "labor principles." Section 2 gives this cleverly phrased explanation of the "open" shop:

> "The right of open shop operation, that is the right of employer and employe to enter into and determine the conditions of employment relations with each other, is an essential part of the individual right of contract possessed by each of the parties."

The above theory is supported by Judge Gary of the steel trust and other anti-trade unionists who refuse to surrender their power over wage earners. These employers "talk big" on the legal right of individual bargaining, which no one denies. They remain silent, however, on the legal, social and ethical right of workers to act together.

The chamber of commerce has stripped the so-called "open" shop of all pretense, and it now stands, as it always was intended to stand—avowedly anti-trade union.

Patched Like Crazy Quilt Are Words, Words, Words

New York, July 3.—The Annalist, leading financial paper, features an article by Edward A. Bradford, in which this crazy quilt arrangement of words, words, words, is presented:

"Admitting the hardships of two million railway workers through underpayment, the hardships through the underpayment of the railways are greater. There are scores of millions of sufferers through depreciation of railway securities, and reduction of incomes from them. Such sufferers are innocent and helpless, more helpless than even unorganized workers. They are the victims of both officials and strikers, and are entitled to protection against both, regardless of the profit or loss of the defense. Nothing could be more heartless or immoral than the position of the strikers, who care not how many starve or freeze provided their wages may be raised. No one asks them to stay in the service, or blames them for withholding their labor power. That is their right, and the necessary labor must be attracted to the industry by bettering conditions of employment. Labor should improve its industrial position by all fair means, and the acceptance of a higher wage is a family man's duty. But it is equally the worker's duty to earn the wage he demands, and to allow a free field for those who are willing to take the wage he declines."

FOOD PRICES JUMP.

Washington, July 3.—The United States bureau of labor reports that for the seven-year period, May, 1913, to May, 1920, the retail price of potatoes increased 500 per cent. Sugar increased 370 per cent; eggs, 101 per cent; pork chops, 105 per cent; bread, 105 per cent; ham, 108 per cent; hens, 112 per cent; leg of lamb and rice, 117 per cent each; flour, 164 per cent, and corn meal, 155 per cent.

As compared with 1913, the average family expenditure for 22 articles of food increased 100 per cent in Newark and San Francisco. Increases in other cities follow: Salt Lake City, 102; Seattle, 103; Jacksonville, 105; Boston, 106; Denver and New Orleans, 108 each; New Haven and Pittsburg, 109 each; Dallas and Little Rock, 110 each; Fall River, New York and Philadelphia, 111 each; Manchester, 112; Scranton, 114; Buffalo, Providence and Washington, 115 each; Charleston and Louisville, 116 each; Atlanta and Baltimore, 117 each; Cleveland, Indianapolis and Memphis, 119 each; Chicago and Cincinnati, 120 each; Kansas City and Milwaukee, 122 each; Birmingham, 122; Minneapolis, 125; Richmond, 126; Omaha, 127; Detroit, 128, and St. Louis, 130 per cent.

JUDGE MAGUIRE IS DEAD.

San Francisco, July 3.—James G. Maguire, jurist, statesman and lover of liberty, is dead after a lingering illness. Deceased served as judge of the California state supreme court, and was elected three times to the office of congressman.

While in congress he secured the passage of the Maguire act. That law, enacted 25 years ago, was the first attempt to modernize seamen's legislation, which was completed by the LaFollette act of 1915. The Maguire act was passed at a time when the trade union movement had an uncertain standing, and the fight made by its author endeared him to seamen.

MOVIE GIRLS ORGANIZE.

Cincinnati, July 3.—The Musicians' union has organized girls employed as piano and organ players in moving picture houses. These girls were paid $18 and less for a week of seven days. When exhausted they had to pay for a substitute to hold their job. Since the girls have organized several houses have established a $28 rate. Some managers are objecting and the Moving Picture Operators' union gives notice that their members will be called out if the girls are not accorded justice.

MEAT CUTTERS UNITE.

Edmonton, Alberta, Canada, July 3.—Meat cutters in this city have organized and are preparing to demand improved working conditions.

CO-OPS. LEASE BUILDING.

Hannibal, Mo., July 3.—Co-ops. in this city are building up a substantial movement and have leased a building.

RAISE WAGES $9 A WEEK.

New York, July 3.—An agreement between Steam Engineers' union No. 20 and the brewers' board of trade raises wages of these workers $9 a week.

Labor's Non-Partisan Political Policy Is Proving Practical and Educational

Washington, July 3.—The A. F. of L. national non-partisan political campaign committee has forwarded the record of every senator and congressman to every trade union within the jurisdiction of these respective officials. There is not a trade unionist in this country that is unacquainted with the position taken by his national representatives on questions of interest to the wage earners.

The unions are acting on the suggestion of the A. F. of L. committee to have these records read at various meetings, followed by a discussion of candidates' qualifications and their attitude toward the demands of labor, which are also discussed.

This movement contains no mandatory features. It is based on the theory that when workers are informed they will use their ballot for the benefit of the wage earners. This policy is not of recent date. It has been as much a part of the A. F. of L., since its inception 40 years ago, as is the right of affiliated unions to control their wage scales, strike votes and other internal matters.

In 1896 the A. F. of L. convention declared: "Our movement distinctly draws the line between political action in the interest of labor and political party action."

The 1906 convention said: "Labor has never stood for what our detractors assert, 'No politics in the union.' The fact is that we have declared against partisan politics. Partisanship is exhibited by adherence to a party which refuses its indorsement and non-partisanship consists in continued work for our principles regardless of what any political party may do."

The present non-partisan activity is the most intensive in the history of the A. F. of L. Trade unionists everywhere are responding to the call to be true to their principles.

Aside from placing office seekers on record, labor's policy of presenting its demands to political parties and to aspirants for political office, results in wide publicity of the demands and aims of the workers. These expressions are discussed by citizens generally whose attention is compelled by organized labor's insistence for remedial legislation and ultimate justice.

This publicity makes it possible to refute the claim that organized labor seeks legislation beneficial only to the 5,000,000 members of organized labor. Trade unionists urge legislation for all workers.

This thought was expressed by the labor conference held in Washington last December:

"All workers, whether of the city or country, mine or factory, farm or transportation, have a common path to tread and a common goal to gain. We urge that every practical action be taken by the A. F. of L., with the co-operation of all organized bodies of workers, farmers and sympathetic, liberty-loving citizens of the United States to carry into effect the principles and purposes set forth in the declaration of this conference."

ACCEPT NO-PARTY PLAN.

Denver, July 3.—A conference called by the Colorado state federation of labor and railroad brotherhoods has ended partisan political action by workers in this state and has indorsed the trade union non-partisan political program.

In its declaration of principles, the convention said:

"In general we affirm the absolute right of the toiling masses to work out their own destiny unhindered by legal interference of any character. In particular we declare our unalterable opposition to the '30-day involuntary servitude clause' in the Colorado state industrial commission law and the Kansas court of industrial relations, and any other law of like nature and character which has for its purpose the placing of the workers of any part of this nation in involuntary servitude."

The conference demanded free speech and assemblage and declared that Prussianism, under the guise of compulsory military service "shall not be transferred to American shores."

On the Mexican situation the conference said:

"We condemn the attempt of capitalists to involve us in a war with Mexico in order that oil and smelter magnates may secure unreasonable dividends on their investments, and we demand that Mexico be allowed to settle her own internal differences in her own way without interference by any foreign interests or governments."

JUDGES SHOULD BE ELECTED.

Madison, Wis., July 3.—The Capital Times uses the dismissal of the American Woolen company of profiteering charges as an argument in favor of the election of judges by popular vote.

"The court holds," says this newspaper, "that while the Lever law applies to retailers of clothes and would punish them for making a profit of 50 to 100 per cent, it does not apply to the makers of materials for clothes who may be making 300 per cent. It's a net that catches the little fish, but is not strong enough to catch the big fish. They break through and get away.

"The judges say that while clothes are 'necessaries,' cloth of which clothes are made is not a 'necessary.' So cloth costing $2 a yard may legally be sold for $6.

"Seldom have any millionaire corporations or officers of such corporations ever been indicted, much less convicted."

CARING FOR CHILDREN.

Washington, July 3.—[illegible] the many activities of the United States children's bureau is described in a pamphlet on 'The Child Welfare Special,' issued by the bureau.

The child welfare special is a motorized child welfare station which was established last summer for the purpose of telling mothers of children in rural districts all the things that mothers of city children learn at city child health centers. The special has visited five rural counties, none of which contain more than one town of over 2,500 inhabitants. Four of these are agricultural counties and one is a mining section. The aim of the child welfare special is educational and not clinical.

TO HELP CONSUMPTIVES.

Albany, N. Y., July 3. — A law passed by the last legislature is designed to help consumptives who are without funds. Under this act, every city, village and town shall certify a list of dwellings within their jurisdiction that may be suitable for the board and lodging of consumptives. Any tubercular, who has resided within the jurisdiction one year or over, shall be admitted on certification by the state commissioner of health. If the applicant has sufficient funds he must pay one-third of the cost of board and lodging. If not, the county bears all costs.

RESIST SHORTER HOURS.

Cincinnati, July 3.—Every power at the command of employers is thrown against striking machinists to destroy their shorter hour movement. Injunctions have been issued and damage suits that total staggering sums have been filed against these unionists, all for the purpose of breaking their solidarity. Some of the bosses locked out their employes because they refused to accept the non-union shop, that the employers call "the American plan."

SIGN KEY MEN'S SCALE.

Chicago, July 3.—Officers of the Commercial Telegraphers' union have signed agreements with the three union press divisions of the United States—The United Press association, the universal service and the international news service. A weekly minimum of $4[illegible] was agreed to.

SHODDY WOOL FOISTED ON AMERICAN PEOPLE

Chicago, July 3. — Half a billion pounds of shoddy were thrown on the American clothing market in 1919, while a billion pounds of unmanufactured, virgin wool were accumulating in storehouses. Shoddy is made of woolen rags, respun, perhaps, as often as eight times. It is woven with a small percentage of virgin wool to stick the broken fibres together. Of the 630,000,000 yards of "all wool" cloth produced by the nation's mills, the amount of shoddy used would have produced 280,000,000 yards, if straight shoddy cloth had been turned out. Mixed with a little new wool, it entered into the composition of a vastly greater yardage. In the same period the amount of new wool used would have produced 240,000,000 yards of virgin wool cloth, if it had not been adulterated with shoddy.

The above figures have been made public by the national sheep and wool bureau of America, which is urging the passage of the French-Capper "truth-in-fabric" bill, now pending in congress.

"Today the stores are filled with shoddy clothing and a billion pounds of virgin wool fill the storehouses," continues the bureau. "The shoddy interests have become so thoroughly intrenched through the right of their product to masquerade as 'new wool,' under the popular term 'all wool,' that they have been able to create, in their own interest, an artificial over-supply of virgin wool that is forcing wool growers into insolvency."

The bureau states that government advances of money to wool growers will be only a temporary relief.

"The farmers and sheep men must have permanent relief from the unfair competition of the rag pickers," it is stated. The "truth-in-fabric" bill, if passed, would compel manufacturers to state the amount of new wool and shoddy in each garment.

RATS BREED DISEASE.

Washington, July 3.—Following the discovery of bubonic plague in several American and Mexican gulf ports, Surgeon General Cumming of the United States public health service has renewed his warning against rats. The medical man calls attention to the menace of rodents as disease breeders. He estimates that there is at least one rat for every person in the United States and that it costs this country $180,000,000 a year to support its rat population.

Both from a health and an economic standpoint relentless war should be waged on rats, says Dr. Cumming, who calls attention to a new publication by the public health service entitled "The Rat: Arguments for the Elimination and Methods For Its Destruction." Copies of this pamphlet may be secured by addressing the public health service, Washington.

BELGIUM UNIONS GROW.

Washington, July 3.—The Belgium trade union movement has emerged from the war with an increased membership over the 1912 figures, according to European statistics printed in the Monthly Labor Review, issued by the United States bureau of labor statistics.

In 1912 Belgium trade unions had a membership of 125,729. Last year the membership was 613,169. The turmoil of the war drove these workers from one place to another and it was impossible for the trade unions to keep in touch with them. The organizing staff remained intact, and after the armistice the unions issued an appeal to workers to join the union, establish an eight-hour day and a daily minimum wage of 1 franc (19.2 cents).

FARMERS GIVE MILK PRICES.

New York, July 3.—Announcement by large milk distributors that the July price of milk will be raised has caused officials of a dairy men's organization to make public the price farmers are paid.

It is stated that the farmers will receive during July $2.95 per 100 pounds for milk testing 3 per cent butter fat. This is equivalent to a fraction over 6¼ cents a quart.

The farmers show that their price is reduced over last year, but the public is called upon to pay more for its milk.

CHILDREN OUT OF SCHOOL.

New York, July 3.—The board of education will start a "go-to-school" drive to reach the 200,000 illiterates and non-English speaking persons in this city. A large number of these are children.

CULINARY WORKERS GAIN.

Fresno, Cal., July 3.—Arbitration ended a short strike of culinary workers in this city that tied up most of the eating places. The wage advance includes everyone from chef to dishwasher.